NEWS RELEASE

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GREGG CHECKS IN ON PROGRESS AT LITTLETON AREA LEARNING CENTER; CONNECTS IN REAL-TIME TO CONCORD DEPT. OF SAFETY Additional \$500K in funding will bring total federal awards to \$1.5 million for safety training

LITTLETON, NH -- United States Senator Judd Gregg (R-N.H.) today visited the Littleton Area Learning Center to survey the progress that has been made and to telecommunicate in real-time with local safety officials, including Safety Commissioner Richard Flynn and Transportation Commissioner Carol Murray in Concord. Senator Gregg also announced that an additional \$500,000 in federal funding for the Center is on the verge of approval in the Fiscal Year 2003 Omnibus Appropriations bill, which would bring the total amount secured by Senator Gregg for the Center to \$1.5 million. The Center, which is now operating in the site of the former Littleton Coin Company, is a training facility making resources for mandatory annual training requirements for police and fire personnel more accessible to North Country communities.

Senator Gregg stated, "Over the last several years, the federal government has made a significant commitment to equipping and training first responders to prepare and deal with situations that arise in their own communities. The Littleton Area Learning Center is an outstanding facility which makes training police and fire personnel in the North County substantially easier. The net benefit of the Center is that families in northern New Hampshire will be safer and police and fire departments will be able to spend less time commuting to Concord and more time keeping communities safe. I would like to congratulate and thank all of the local officials involved for the excellent work they have done, and continue to do."

Littleton Industrial Development Corporation President Paul McGoldrick stated, "Two years ago Senator Gregg listened to the needs of the North Country and our appeal for assistance to help meet the continuing education and training needs of our local police forces, firefighters, transportation workers and municipal employees. That year, Senator Gregg succeeded in obtaining Department of Justice funding which helped establish the Littleton Learning Center and began construction on the North Country Public Safety Academy. This latest grant of \$500,000 brings to a total of \$1.5 million by which Senator Gregg has fulfilled his commitment to construct a state of the art training facility which directly links the north side of the notches with the Police and Fire Academies and Department of Transportation headquarters in Concord. Senator Gregg has come through for the North Country in splendid fashion and its communities and residents are excited about this facility."

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